

Groups observe international human rights

By Frank Sullivan
Staff Writer

MOST Americans never stop and think about human rights. After all, we live in the greatest democracy in the world, where the Constitution and the Bill of Rights guarantee only freedom and basic human rights. But America is the exception rather than the rule, and for the vast majority of the people in the world human rights is a very real and pressing problem. Because of this, the week of December 3-10 has been declared International Human Rights Week, and a coalition of groups on campus has been working throughout the week to educate the Drew community about the extent of human rights problems in the world.

The Peacemakers, the local chapter of Amnesty International, based on campus, the Jewish Students Organization (JSO), and Hyera have sponsored a table in the UC all week to distribute information on

a number of specific human rights problem areas, including South Africa, Jewish "refuseniks" in the Soviet Union, the torture of political prisoners in Haiti, and a number of others.

Amnesty International is a non-partisan international human rights organization based in London, which is devoted to working to free nonviolent political prisoners in countries throughout the world. It won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1984. Group 45 of Amnesty, which is based here on campus, has "adopted" a political prisoner in South Africa, and one in Greece. Of the eleven political prisoners this chapter has adopted over the years, nine have been released from jail. The best known prisoner this group helped to free is Tariq Ahsan, a graduate of Drew who was imprisoned in his native Pakistan in 1982 for loaning his motorbike to a friend, who used it to distribute a pamphlet calling for a democratic Pakistan. Working with a chapter of Amnesty in New York City, the Drew

chapter wrote letters to Tariq and his family as well as Pakistani government officials, and even demonstrated in front of the Pakistan consulate in New York City. After serving his term, Tariq was released in 1984. He has since come to speak at Drew, in the fall of 1984, and is currently working for his doctorate in political science at Carleton College in Ontario.

The Jewish Students Organization recently adopted Elena Gurevich, a Jewish "refusenik" in the U.S.S.R. whose family has repeatedly applied for a visa to emigrate to Israel since 1974, and have always been turned down. Elena's mother, Galina, was fired from her job as a technician after they applied for the first time. The reason for the denial of the visa was that Galina's job supposedly involved "state secrets," although another technician with the same job was granted a visa.

The JSO chose to adopt Galina, according to Melissa Nathanson, one of its

members, because she is a student. At the letter writing table co-sponsored by the JSO and Peacemakers, Drew students wrote 170 letters to Galina and her family. While most of these letters will probably never reach them, the fact that members of the American public are aware of Elena's situation puts pressure on the Soviet government to ease up in its harassment of the family.

CROSSWORD

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15	S	N	I	P	S	S	H	E	E	T					

SOLUTION

Letters Continued

Deputy Speaker thanks supporters

To the Editor:

As the sponsor of legislation enacted requiring the divestment of the State's public pension funds directly or indirectly linked to South Africa, I want to take this opportunity to thank the many students and faculty at Drew college for the support given to me. New Jersey's divestment of pension funds of South African tainted holdings is the largest and toughest of any State in the nation. It is because of support such as yours that we can make that claim today.

However, our task is not over. There is still far more that we must do. I have introduced legislation, among others, which I hope will be making its way straight through the legislature and to the Governor which would:

- Prohibit a corporation from being eligible to apply for a casino license unless the corporation divested itself from investments in or from South African-based corporations and companies;

- Require an institution of higher education in this state to completely divest itself of holdings of stocks of companies in South Africa or lose state funding; and

- Require the Division of Public Interest Advocacy in the Department of the Public Advocate to represent or assist citizens of this state in legal proceedings concerning a conscientious objection to a military alliance between the United States and the South African Regime. The Division would also be called on to represent certain stockholders in United States corporations who have gone on record with the corporation as opposing that corporation's business involvement in South

Africa and whose stocks have lost monetary value due to civil unrest in South Africa.

"Prohibit the load "and unload" from New Jersey ports of goods from or to South Africa. I look forward to your active support of these measures. We must not stop now. We must continue the fight for human rights and human dignity in South Africa, South America, Soviet Russia, Uganda, and Palestine, wherever men and women are unable to sit under their fig tree and not be afraid.

Again, thank you for your continued support.

Presidents extend thanks

To the Editor:

Members of Ariel and Hyera wish to express their gratitude and appreciation for the overwhelming response and words of encouragement that they received on the evening of the ribbon cutting ceremony for the grand opening of the Multi-Cultural Center.

The Multi-Cultural Center is located in room 122 of the University Center. While the center is available to individuals and groups, reservations are required for groups wishing to use the center.

Angie Armand-President of Ariel
Gyal Barnes-President of Hyera

Bits & Pieces

Wanted to buy — Used Epson QX-10. Contact Robert Berko, 762-7120. For information on the following jobs, please contact Shirley Cameron in the Student Employment office.

For Sale — 1973 VW Fastback. Automatic. Michelin radials. \$475 or best offer. 622-2451 (answering machine).

Snow Shoveling — Brinkman Industries needs people on an on-call basis. \$6.50/hr. Call 455-1624, or 334-2322.

On campus — snow shoveling for Drew grounds crew. Need people on an on-call basis. \$5/hr. Call Brian, ext. 510.

Physics tutor for girl senior in high school.

Secretary for an architect's office in Morristown, Mon. - Fri., 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. \$4.25/hr.

Dishwasher — One hour per day, after 12:30 p.m. In Madison. \$6/hr. In home for aged.

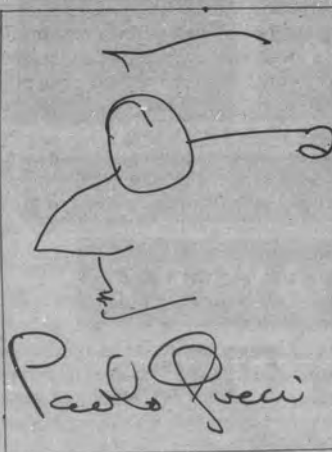
Ads for Bits & Pieces may be placed through campus mail Box L-321, or in person to our office. Deadline for the same week is Wednesday, at 4 p.m. Rates are \$3 per ad, and may not exceed 25 words. Longer ads will be charged an additional 10 cents per word over 25. Ads for this column must be paid in advance.

Typist — Prudential Insurance Co. in Morristown, part-time, flexible hours. Salary negotiable.

Stable worker — Morning or afternoons in Millington. \$5.50/hr.

Clean up — Christmas Day. Two hours, late afternoon, in New Vernon. \$50-60, for two hours.

Scoop of the Week:



Acorn Art/Paolo Gucci
Paolo Gucci/Features



Acorn Photo/Sean Fulton
James Flanagan/News

Health Service needs students to help with educational programs. Contact: JoAnn Long in the Infirmary